

HAMIGDALOR

המגדלור



4839 Market Street, Unit C, Ventura, Ca. 93003

Phone (805) 644-2899

From The Rabbi's Study – July 2022

www.congregationAmHaYam.com



A Ship's Waves—Then and Seventy-Five Years Later

In 1946, a ship, the *USS President Warfield*, was bought for \$8,028 by the Western Trading Company to be used as scrap. She originally carried passengers across the Chesapeake Bay. During much of WWII, she was a training ship for the British Armed forces. Later in the war, she became a U.S. Navy accommodation ship for the landing at Omaha Beach. It was sad that this ship was going to be scrapped.

However, the company did not scrap it; rather, they sold it to the Weston Trading Company for \$40,000. That's when the ship's history really took off, for the Weston Trading Company was a front for the Haganah, Jewish Palestine's military organization. The Haganah had a plan, so they spent another nearly \$130,000 to overhaul the ship.

The plan was to return to the original use of the ship for passengers: specifically to take immigrants from post-war Europe to Israel, called *Aliyah Bet*. She was, in fact, the largest of the 64 ships used. The ship was certified to carry 540 passengers; this time it had 4,515, mostly refugees from the Holocaust. Yet the British were committed to their 1939 White Paper, severely limiting the amount of Jewish immigrants to Palestine. The British used naval and military force to prevent Jewish immigration. More than 50 per cent of the 142 voyages these ships made were turned back.

In July 1947 the *USS President Warfield* was renamed *Exodus 1947*, immediately connecting the plight of the Holocaust survivors trying to get out of Europe to our people getting out of Egypt some 3200 years ago.

Exodus 1947 was led by two Haganah leaders, Ike Aronowicz and Yossi Harel. Most of its 35 crew were American Jewish volunteers, many with no training. They raised a flag with the Star of David as they left Sete, France, 75 years ago on July 11. Virtually every day the British came close, asking if there were refugees aboard. The response was to play Edward Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance* over the public address system.

With the world watching, the British surrounded, intercepted, and jammed the ship on July 18. Intercepted migrants were sent to camps in Cyprus, then a British colony, before deporting them back to France. France, however, refused to participate in a forced disembarkation. The passengers went on a hunger strike. After a three-week contest of wills, the British sent the passengers to camps in Germany after literally beating Holocaust survivors into submission. Publicly beating Holocaust survivors and deporting them to camps in Germany—can anything sound more perverse?

The amazing story continues, even if we cannot recall it all here. The majority of the passengers were smuggled into Palestine. The British left Palestine, as Israel did indeed declare itself a state. The British gave de facto recognition to Israel in January 1949, after a truce in the War for Independence was announced. Following this the remaining passengers of the *Exodus 1947* were transferred from Cyprus. (Great Britain extended formal recognition of the State of Israel on April 28, 1950).

The real-life drama of the *Exodus 1947* had the world on its edge. The incident helped unify the Jewish community of Palestine and the Holocaust-survivor refugees in Europe as well as significantly deepening international sympathy for the plight of Holocaust survivors and rallying support for the idea of a Jewish state. Those refugees, who had suffered so much, had to endure more, solely because they wanted to live in their homeland.

But we should also note that it was the motivation and efficiency of American Zionists determined to help survivors find refuge outside the displaced persons camps in Europe who made it possible to purchase, navigate, and staff the boat. These American Jews put their lives on the line for the lives of those whom they never met but with whom they felt close affinity. They felt the keen importance of the mission. They were there because they cared. In doing so, they gave living expression to the age-old dictum that *kol Yisrael areivim ze ba-ze*, that “all Jews are responsible for one another.”¹

Yes, we Jews also feel a responsibility to help all people in need or distress.
Yes, we want to be “a light unto the nations.”²
Yes, social justice is G!dly.

¹ BT *Sh'vu-ot* 39a.

² See Isaiah 42:6 and 49:6. Cf. as well Isaiah 60:3.

Yet in an age of rising antisemitism worldwide, perhaps especially within our own country, the story of the *Exodus 1947* continues to inspire us. It is emblematic of the multiple ways in which we connect as *k'lal Yisrael*, the Jewish people. It teaches us how collective memory inspires us to action, honoring our commitments to Jewish history and Jewish suffering, to our sisters and brothers in Israel and throughout the world.

Let us remember the *Exodus 1947*, and may this lead us to remember our commitments to Jewish history, to Jewish suffering, to Israel, to justice and righteousness, and to each other.

Amen.



Message From

Brenda Rich



Greetings: It's July and I know there will be vacations for many of us. But you cannot forget about CAH. There is never a vacation from services at Congregation Am HaYam. We will still be having services live at CAH and live-streaming on Friday, July 1 and Friday, July 15 at 8 p.m. and on Saturday, July 2 and July 16 at 10 a.m. There will be a special Kiddush luncheon on July 16th in honor of all our birthday and anniversary celebrants. And there are so many of them. See elsewhere in the Migdalor for their listing.

So appreciative to Rabbi Sacks, Maayan Lev, Fran Lande and Andrea Massion for all the time they put into providing all of us with so much to keep us involved. And to all those who attended and gained so much, thank you also. Be even more appreciative of all that will be coming in the future. July will also begin the start of our High Holy Day planning. You all will be happy to know that we have already hired Rabbi Stuart Light who was with us last year to add his special talents to our services.

All members have received their invoices for dues for 2022-2023, please send in your payment as soon as possible. And if possible, make a voluntary contribution above your dues and in addition to your future High Holy Day pledge.

Remember that kindness to one another will solve most problems.
Shalom!!!

Brenda

GROUNDING OUR LIVES: CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM AND THE POWER OF CAH

This past year we had an exciting year exploring the nature of Conservative Judaism today, our personal lives, and our CAH family's religious culture. We had exciting and meaningful presentations from Hazzan Mike Stein on music and spirituality, by Rabbi Elliot Dorff on the power of belonging to a synagogue community and a regular Shabbat minyan family, and by Rabbi Joshua Hoffman on belong to a people, including United Synagogue (the Conservative Movement) and the Jewish people.

We remain deeply grateful to the Pacific Southwest Region of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism for extending to us a generous grant for this year, and we deeply appreciate the generous donation of the Joseph P. Reardon Funeral Home that enabled us to better meet our vision of this year.

Moreover, we are especially humbled and grateful to all those, members and friends of CAH, who gave of their own resources to help ensure our envisioned programs, particularly our final event and celebration on May 22. Here is a list of our generous donors. Todah rabbah! Thank you so much!

“GROUNDING OUR LIVES” DONORS

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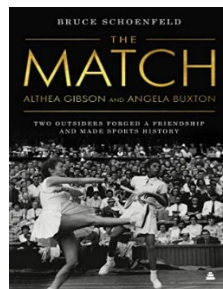
Book Club News



UPCOMING SIGNIFIANT BOOK CLUB SESSIONS

***The Match: Althea Gibson and a Portrait of a Friendship*—Date TBA**

The incredible story of two outsiders—Angela Buxton, an emerging champion who happens to be Jewish, and Althea Gibson, the first black player to win Wimbledon—pair up not only to form a winning team, but also an enduring friendship.



CongregationAmHaYam.com

June: Get in on All the Excitement Here at CAH!

Here at CAH we offer an extensive set of ongoing, recurring events. In fact, there are often seven events each week! Some months we offer special items.

Having regular opportunities to be together, to learn, to pray, to sing, to share has been very nurturing of all of us during this pandemic and has strengthened us as a community. We are proud of all these offerings and are grateful to all the event leaders. Thank you! Brenda sends out the link for the Zoom or YouTube link ahead of time, so that it will be towards the top of your Email inbox. Services are coordinated by Rabbi Sacks; all other events are coordinated by our Adult Education Vice President, Fran Lande. If you have questions about our non-service offerings or have suggestions for other events, please contact Fran. Please contact fblande@gmail.com

| EVENT | LEADER | DAY and TIME | DATES |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Erev Shabbat (Friday night) services | Rabbi Sacks | Fridays, 8 p.m. at CAH and Streaming. | July. 2, 15 |
| Shabbat (Saturday) morning services | Rabbi Sacks | Saturdays 10a at CAH and Streaming | July. 3, 16 |
| Ritual Meeting (via Zoom) | Neal Abramson | Sunday 10a on Zoom | July. 17 |

CLASSES RETURN IN THE FALL.



Tributes

Bill Amplo for a Refuah Shleima to Ruth Resnick on her cataract surgery

Ruth Resnick to Fran Lande on a healthy speedy recovery

Bill Amplo & Bill Snellenberger to Fran Lande for a speedy get well

Ken Hailpern to Fran Lande for a speedy get well

In Memory Of

Alma Boronkay IMO Michael Boronkay

Ruth Resnick IMO Aaron Resnick

In Honor of CAH

Mark Rich - Get well Fran Lande

Birthdays

7/14 Elaine Hanig

7/15 Donna Gustafson

7/15 Lee Rothschild

7/16 Brenda Rich

7/21 Eva Lowe

7/20 Judy Margolis

7/27 Alma Boronkay

7/28 Roz Resnick

7/30 Joanne Glick

7/30 Bev Rosen

Anniversaries

7/3 Sydell & Bernie Bubman

7/16 Janice & Amnon Aharon-Ezer

7/18 Judy & Rick Newberger

Get Well

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Fil Barton | Bob Berman |
| Alma Boronkay | Steven Goch |
| Eva Lowe | Fran Lande |
| Sheila Myles | Judy Newberger |
| Lee Rothschild | Dianne Ruthman |
| Herb Stein | Nancy Stein |

heart hope blessing spirit prayer love trust
RENEWAL COMFORT rejuvenate help hug restore
courage strength MI-SHEBEIRACH
calm ease ADONAI wellbeing soothe refresh dear
sing Amen healing body soul
reassure rfuah-sh'leimah



Yahrzeit

Friday, July 1 & Sat July 2

*Harry Kaufman, Father of Murray Kaufman z"l

*Benjamin Weiner, Father of Myrna Winer z"l

*Frances Lebman Hale, Sister-in-Law of Lois Lebman

*Arnold Rich, Husband of Brenda Rich and Father of Mark Rich

Friday, July 15 & Sat July 16

*Richard Schneeberger, Father of Mark Schneeberger

Sarah Paynter, Mother of Florence Beck

*Nettie Halpern, Mother of Kenneth Halpern

*Rabbi Gerald Hanig, Husband of Elaine Hanig

*Fannie Silberman, Mother of Judy Margolis

Jerome Kattan, Brother of Fil Barton

*Rabbi Morris Rubinstein, Husband of Miriam Rubinstein

Jeanette Kirsch, Aunt of Ruth Resnick

CAH Protocols for Moving Back into Our Building

(Revised, February 2022)

Now that the Omicron surge has waned, we look forward to again having services live in our own CAH home. To do so, these are the protocols we will be following. We thank you in advance for helping make our synagogue space warm, welcoming, and safe for all.

1. Everyone must be fully vaccinated to come to services and events held in our CAH home. Proof of vaccination should be shown the first time entering.
2. Social distancing will be maintained. All rows can be utilized, but people not from the same residence should be separated by a few seats.
3. Wearing masks is optional (as all are fully vaccinated).
4. For those who cannot attend services, we will continue live-streaming our services.
5. Service will continue as we have been doing, with aliyot and honors from the front of the Sanctuary, and not from the bimah.

Best Practices/Etiquette Upon Moving Back

Not everyone is equally comfortable with touch at this time, whether it is a handshake, a hug, or a Shabbat shalom kiss. We can express our joy in seeing each other without these, but if it's something any of us want to do, please ASK the person you are about to greet in a physical way first. Please do not take anyone's "NO" as a rejection. Please support everyone in the comfort level in which they find themselves.

ORDERING MEMORIAL WALL PLAQUES AT CAH

Jewish tradition sees memory as a sacred act, allowing us to be inspired by the good in a loved one's life and live more fully in our own days. A yahrzeit plaque allows for a permanent remembrance of a loved one, ensuring that his or her name will be recalled in perpetuity in our congregation. It is very meaningful to see the memorial plaque of your loved one on the High Holy Days, especially at the Yom Kippur Yizkor (Remembrance) service, on the Shabbat close to the yahrzeit, and at other special moments (including Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot Yizkor services).

Names on the plaque are automatically recalled publicly at the Shabbat prior to the yahrzeit at both our Friday night and Saturday morning services just before Mourner's Kaddish.

Ordering a plaque is a wonderful way to pay tribute to that special person or persons of blessed memory.

The current cost of ordering a bronze plaque for the memorial wall is \$360.00 per plaque. If you would like to order two plaques now, the cost will be \$330.00 per name. For 3 or more plaques the cost is \$300.00 per name.

Thank you for considering doing this for your loved ones. Their lives will be remembered and an inspiration to many.

Sincerely,

Brenda Rich

PLAQUE #1–Name of deceased: _____

Relationship _____

Hebrew Name _____ (son/daughter of) _____ and _____

Date of death English

Date of death Hebrew

Before or after sundown _____

PLAQUE #2–Name of deceased: _____

Relationship _____

Hebrew Name _____ (son/daughter of) _____ and _____

Date of death English

Date of death Hebrew

Before or after sundown _____

PLAQUE #3–Name of deceased: _____

Relationship _____

Hebrew Name _____ (son/daughter of) _____ and _____

Date of death English

Date of death Hebrew

Before or after sundown _____

If you have more than three plaques, please place information on additional sheets of paper.

Please mail this form with your check for the amount in full to:
Congregation Am HaYam; Attn: Brenda Rich; 4839 Market St. Unit C; Ventura, CA 93003

July 2022

Tammuz 5782

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------|------------------|---|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | Erev Shabbat Services 8p at CAH Light Candles 7:55p IMO Sydney Becker IMO David Goch | Shabbat Services 10a at CAH Shabbat end at 8:57p |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Sydell & Bernie Bubman Anniv | | IMO Harry Kaufman | | | Light Candles 7:54p IMO Benjamin Weiner | Shabbat end at 8:55p |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| | | | | Elaine Hanig B/D | Erev Shabbat Services 8p at CAH Light Candles 7:52p IMO Frances Lebman Hale IMO Arnold Rich Donna Gustafson B/D Lee Rothschild B/D | Shabbat Services 10a at CAH Shabbat end at 8:52p IMO Richard Schneeberger Brenda Rich B/D Janice & Amnon Aharon-Ezer Anni |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Ritual Meeting 10a on Zoom | Judy & Rick Newberger Anni | IMO Sarah Paynter IMO Jennette Klrsch | Judy Margolis B/D | Eva Lowe B/D | Light Candles 7:48p | Shabbat end at 8:52p |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| | IMO Nettie Halpern | | Alma Boronskay B/D | Roz Resnick B/D | Light Candles 7:43p IMO Rabbi Gerald Hanig | Shabbat end at 8:41p IMO Fannie Silberman Joanne Glick B/D Bev Rosen B/D |
| 31 | | | | | | |



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Peter Shack z'l
Brenda Rich

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Rabbi J.B. Sacks

rabbijbsacks@gmail.com Phone # 323-387-0096

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